CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on July 18, 2002.

N. Slaveter

In the application of:

Kenji MASAKI

Serial No.:

09/287,530

Filing Date:

April 7, 1999

For:

DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING

APPARATUS

Examiner: Barry Choobin

Group Art Unit: 2621

K)

RECEIVED

JUL 2 3 2002

Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application as follows: